



MINUTES OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

October 1, 2018

The City Council of the City of Burlington held a regularly-scheduled work session in the Municipal Conference Room, 425 South Lexington Avenue, Burlington, N.C., on October 1, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Ian Baltutis and Mayor Pro Tem Kathy Hykes
Councilmembers Robert Ward, James Butler and Harold Owen

Councilmembers Absent: *None*

City Manager: Hardin Watkins, *present*

City Attorney: David Huffman, *present*

City Clerk: Renee Ward, *present*

A. Alamance Bonds

Cindy Brady
Coordinator, Vote 3 for Education

Ms. Cindy Brady, Coordinator, Vote 3 for Education, asked that Council support Vote 3 for Education by passing a resolution of support.

City Manager Hardin Watkins provided the following information:

During the last few years, the Alamance-Burlington School System (ABSS) and Alamance Community College (ACC) assessed their current and future capital needs. On January 8, 2018, the Trustees of Alamance Community College passed a resolution to ask the Alamance County Board of Commissioners (Board) to consider approving a bond referendum for expansion and improvement of their facilities in the amount of \$39.6 million dollars.

On February 28, 2018, the ABSS Board of Education also passed a resolution requesting that Commissioners consider a bond referendum for \$150 million dollars for school construction and repairs.

A public hearing for the bond referendum was held on Monday, April 16, 2018, at 7:00pm at Southern High School in Graham. That evening the Board approved the bond order authorizing up to \$150 million dollars in school bonds to be used for ABSS needs.

They also approved the bond order authorizing up to \$39.6 million dollars in bonds to be used for Alamance Community College needs. The Board then voted in favor of a resolution that allowed for a special bond referendum for each of these bonds to be included on the November 6, 2018, ballot.

Councilman Butler said that the status of the facilities was horrible in certain areas and from a Council standpoint. He asked what the process was to determine how the money would be allocated. He said that where the City was concerned and the Comprehensive Plan stated, that education was a big deal for the City moving forward. He said that it appeared that Burlington was painfully shortchanged on the money for Williams High School, which is the oldest school, that will be receiving 4 million versus some of the newer schools that are getting \$12 to \$18 million. He asked how that was determined and how that would be conveyed to constituents.

Ms. Brady responded that it was a real circumstance and that she was not part of that process. She said that there was a facility task force, Superintendent of Maintenance and an architect firm that toured the schools. She said that they look at all the issues, and as a group, the needs were prioritized. She said that ultimately the amount was more than \$150 million but that you had to look at what your community could support.

Councilman Butler said that based on what he had read, there were no monies going to any of the elementary and middle schools in the City of Burlington. He said that he would be remiss if he did not air his dissatisfaction and that Williams High School was in bad shape.

Ms. Brady said that when she gives informal presentations about supporting the bonds, that they were about people considering the big picture and that a \$150 million cannot meet all the needs. She said that when you look at the community needs and the start of an investment which is the list that the Commissioners and the Board of Education worked on together.

Councilman Ward said that he supported the bonds and without information about what the Commissioners were going to do about capping the tax, he did not think it was appropriate for the City Council to weigh in on County tax increases. He said that he had prepared another resolution in support of the bonds that he would like Council to consider.

Mayor Baltutis thanked Councilman Ward for providing the revised resolution and that it did a better job at addressing his views on investing in education to develop the strength of our community, the quality of life and why people want to be a part of Burlington.

Mayor Pro Tem Hykes said that she would like to have something about the future of children incorporated in the resolution as that was what the bonds were about.

Councilman Ward said that this was just a proposal and to feel free to make changes. He said that his biggest concern was the Council weighing in on someone else's tax rate.

Mr. Tom Boney, Publisher, Alamance-News asked to speak and he voiced concerns about the proposed bond referendums and sales tax increase.

Consensus of Council was to review the resolution, add additional wording or changes, and place the resolution on the October 2, 2018, City Council meeting for consideration.

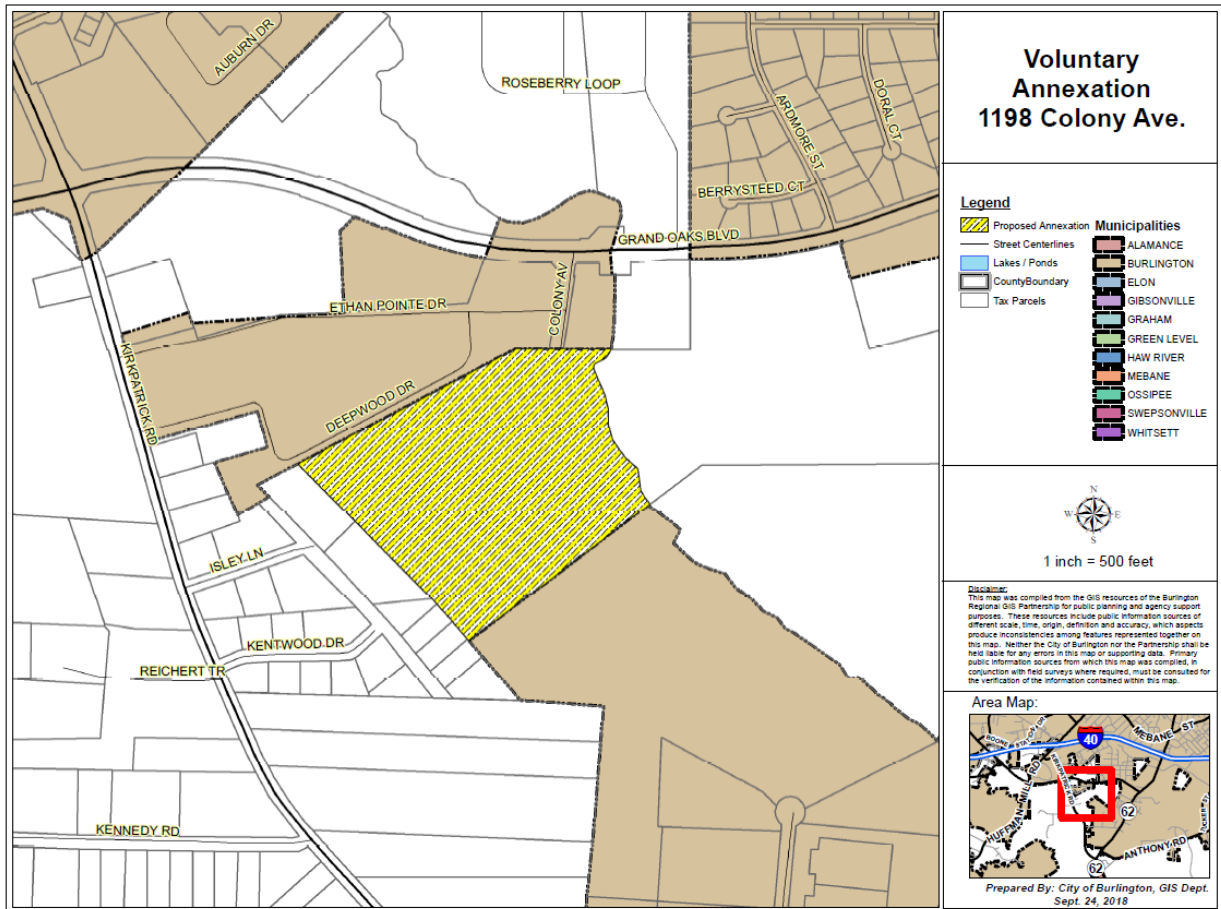
B. Annexation Requests

Sewer Service – 1198 Colony Avenue – Contiguous Voluntary

Water Service – 1034 Graham Hopedale Road – Non-Contiguous Voluntary

David Beal
Assistant Director
Planning and Community Development

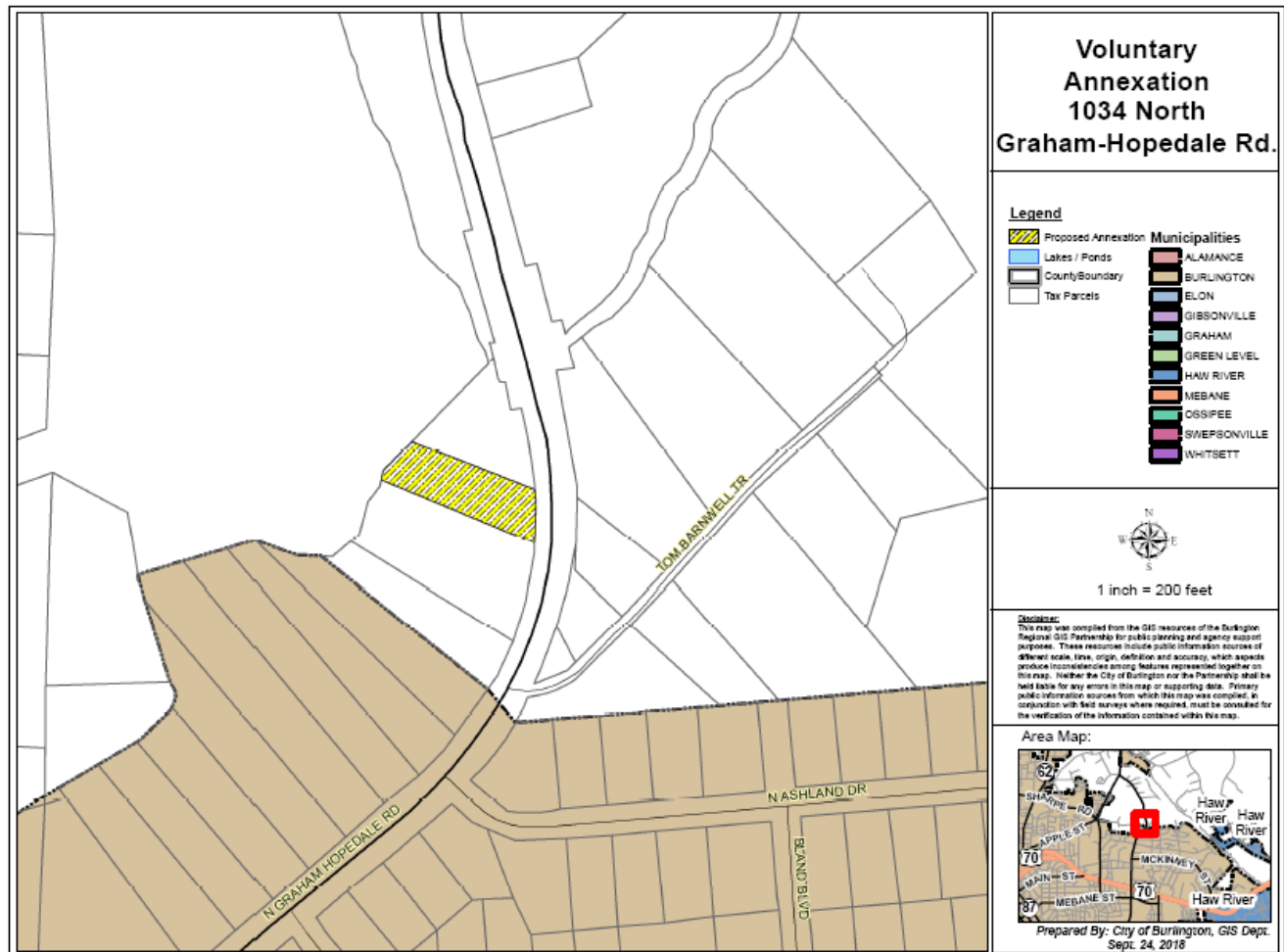
Sewer Service – Terry D. Crenshaw Contiguous Annexation – 1198 Colony Avenue



Mr. David Beal shared that this request was for sewer service only and that the petitioner had signed an annexation agreement, which is customary when requesting utility services. He said that this property was contiguous to current City limits and would bridge the gap of satellite annexation. He asked Council to consider this item at the October 2, 2018, City Council meeting to set a date of public hearing.

Council Consensus was to add this request to the October 2, 2018, City Council agenda.

Water Service – 1034 Graham Hopedale Road-Non-Contiguous Voluntary



Mr. Beal shared that this request was for water service only and that the petitioner had signed an annexation agreement, which is customary when requesting utility services. He asked Council to consider this request at the October 2, 2018, City Council to set a date of public hearing.

Council Consensus was to add this request to the October 2, 2018, City Council agenda.

C. Boards and Commissions Reports

- Planning and Zoning Commission – 2 Requests:

1) Twin Lakes Continuing Care Retirement Center

Two parcels for the expansion of a new facility – A public hearing has been scheduled for October 16, 2018 - No one from the public spoke against the request and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommendation approval.

2) Proposed Amendments to Section 32.9; Table of Permitted Uses, Section 32.10; Supplementary Use Regulations and Section 32.11; Off-Street Parking and Loading pertaining to sweepstakes – Electronic gaming operations – No one spoke in opposition and the Planning and Zoning voted to approve the request. Zoned as conditional business with restrictions: no accessory uses, hours of operation, no tinted windows, no alcohol, no one under 18, no excessive lighting, and parking restrictions. A public hearing was scheduled for October 16, 2018.

- Traffic Commission – *No Report*
- Public Transit Advisory Commission (PTAC) – *No Report*

D. City Manager Comments

There were no comments.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 5:25p.m.

Renee M. Ward

Renee M. Ward, CMC
City Clerk

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Work Session